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January 21st 1849

Receipt of the following Reports and Law Books was this day acknowledged,

Two Copies of "Acts, Journal, Reports & Resolutions of the General Assembly of South Carolina 1848".

Eleventh Volume Smeades & Marshalls Reports of the Supreme Court of Mississippi".

Seventeenth Vol Ohio Reports and one copy of Laws of Ohio for the year 1848.

Twenty six volumes of the Documents of the 1st Session of the 30th Congress

Proclamation

By the Governor of the Territory of Oregon

Whereas, it has been made known to me by the commanding officer of the troops now garrisoned in Oregon City, that many desertions have lately taken place, and that some thirty or forty soldiers, belonging to the Rifle regiment, are now supposed to be somewhere in the settlement of the Willamette Valley, endeavouring to make their way to California —

I have conceived it to be my duty to issue this my Proclamation, calling upon every civil Officer of the Territory, and citizen thereof, to seize the said Deserters, and deliver them to any commissioned officer in the service of the United States —

"A reward of thirty dollars for each deserter, will be paid to the person or persons arresting and returning them"

I have also thought proper to cause to be published the 15th section of an Act of Congress, entitled, "An act to ascertain and fix the Military Establishment of the United States" and to make known that it will be strictly enforced against any person or persons who violate its provisions; which section is as follows, to wit:

"And be it further enacted, That every person who shall procure or entice a soldier in the service of the United States, to desert, or who shall purchase from any soldier, his Arms, uniform, clothing, or any part thereof; and any Captain or commanding officer of any ship or vessel, who shall enlist on board such ship or vessel, as one of his crew, knowing him to have deserted, or otherwise unlawfully absent soldier, or shall refuse to deliver up such deserter to the order of his commanding officer, shall, upon legal conviction, be fined at the discretion of the court, in

any sum not exceeding three hundred dollars, or be imprisoned for any term not exceeding one year."

The law further provides that every officer, non-commissioned officer, private, and musician, shall take and subscribe the following oath:

"I do solemnly swear to bear true allegiance to the United States of America, and to serve them honestly and faithfully against their enemies and opposers whomsoever, and to observe and obey the orders of the President of the United States of America, and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to the rules and articles of war."

Every citizen will see at once that the soldier who deserts is guilty of perjury, and not entitled to protection, encouragement, or sympathy from the good people of this Territory, nor will he be fit to be among you.

I do therefore beseech you to seize all deserters and deliver them to the commanding or some other officer of the United States army, or report their whereabouts to the same.

Given under my hand, at Oregon City, in the Territory of Oregon, this eleventh day of February, in the year of our Lord 1850.

"Signed" Joseph Lane

Proclamation

By the Governor of the Territory of Oregon

Believing it to be

~~Thinking it~~ proper and necessary to call a special Session of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Oregon, I hereby notify the members of the Council and House of Representatives, elect and Appointed of Oregon City in said Territory on the first Monday the 6th day of May next.

Given under my hand at Oregon City this eighth day of April in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and fifty.

"Signed" Joseph Lane

Proclamation
By The Governor of the Territory of Oregon

I, Joseph Lane, Governor of the Territory of Oregon do hereby give notice, that an Election will be held on Monday the Twenty ninth day of April, at the usual places of holding elections in the County of Marion (formerly Champoeg) for the purpose of electing One Member to the Council, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the Hon. Westley Shannon —

Also; That an Election will be held on Monday the Twenty ninth day of April at the usual places of holding elections in the County of Linn, for the purpose of Electing One Member of the House of Representatives to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the Hon. Jacob Conser —

Also; That an Election will be held on Monday the Twenty ninth day of April, at the usual places of holding elections in the County of Polk, for the purpose of electing One Member to the House of Representatives, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the Hon. Saml. Burch

The above elections will be held and conducted as provided by the law governing general elections of the late Provisional Government of Oregon; and returns made without delay to the Executive Office in this City —

Given under my hand, this 6th day of April in the Year of our Lord 1850

"Signed" Joseph Lane

Proclamation
By the Governor of the Territory of Oregon

I, Joseph Lane, Governor of the Territory of Oregon, do hereby give notice that an Election will be held on Saturday the Fourth day of May next, at the usual places of holding Elections in the County of Yamhill, for the purpose of Electing One Member to ~~fill~~ the Council to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the Hon. A B Grand, to be held and conducted as provided by law and returns made without delay to the Executive Office in this City

Given under my hand this 25th day of April 1850

"Signed" Joseph Lane

Executive Office
Oregon City O.T.
April 25th 1850

The Hon. Jno M. Clayton
Secl of State of the U. S.
Sir

I have the honor herewith to transmit over my own signature, a copy of my Executive Journal, up to the present date, the Secretary of the Territory having failed to transmit the same as provided by law

I have the honor to be
Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
"Signed" Joseph Lane

Proclamation
By The Governor of the Territory of Oregon

I Joseph Lane, Governor of the Territory of Oregon do hereby give notice that an Election will be held on Saturday the 4th day of May next at the usual places of holding Elections in the county of Marion (formerly Champoeg) for the purpose of Electing Members to the House of Representatives to fill the vacancies occasioned by the resignation of the Hon. W. J Mattoon and the Hon. W. W. Chapman to be conducted as provided by law, and returns made without delay to the Executive Office in this City.

Given under my hand this 25th day of April A.D 1850

(Signed) Joseph Lane

Proclamation
By The Governor of the Territory of Oregon

I Joseph Lane, Governor of the Territory of Oregon, do hereby give notice that an Election will be held on Saturday the 4th day of May next at the usual places of holding elections in the county of Clackamas for the purpose of electing One Member to the House of Representatives to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the Hon. J D Holman to be conducted as

provided by law, and returns made without delay
to the Executive office in this City
Given under my hand this 25th. day of
April A. D 1850

(Signed) Joseph Lane

May 6th 1850

Certificate of Election issued to George L Curris as
Member of the House of Representatives for Clackamas County
to fill the vacancy of I D Holman resigned
Certificate of Election issued to Richard Miller as
Member of the Council for the county of Marion
to fill the vacancy of Westly Shannon resigned
Certificate of Election issued to Ransom Clark as
Member of the Council for the county of Yamhill
to fill the vacancy of I B Graves resigned
Certificate of Election issued to John Thorp as
Member of the House of Representatives for the county of [illegible]
to fill the vacancy of Samuel Burch resigned
Certificate of Election issued to Isaac Davidson as
Member of the House of Representatives for the county of
Marion. to fill the vacancy of W. T. Matlock, resigned.
Certificate of Election issued to Isaac Miller as member
of the House of Representatives for the county of Marion
to fill the vacancy of W. W. Chapman resigned. —

May 10th 1850

Receipt of the following Books were this
day acknowledged — viz.

Three Copies of the Laws of the State of Delaware

One vol of Smedes & Marshall's Report and
Hutchinson's Mississippi Code from 1798 to 1848

Two Copies of the Laws of the State of New
Hampshire

April 25th 1850

James Mc Bride was this day commissioned as
Superintendent of Public Printing

Message

Fellow Citizens of the Council, and House of Representatives!

It affords me pleasure to congratulate you upon your return to the Seat of Government, in compliance with a special call made upon you for the purpose of discharging your duties to the people of the Territory.

Although the past winter has been an unusually rainy one, occasioning higher water than has hitherto been known - seriously damaging many of our citizens, engaged in milling operations, it has pleased Almighty God to grant us general good health and prosperity.

Soon after entering upon the duties of my office, I adopted such measures as in my judgment were necessary and proper to secure the punishment of the Cayuse Indians who murdered Dr Whitman, family and others; availing myself of every opportunity to make known to the tribe, that those concerned in that horrible massacre, must be given up for trial, and if found guilty, be punished according to the laws of our country; that in no other way could they save their nation from a war, which would lead to their total destruction; that in no wise could not discriminate between the innocent and the guilty; that they knew the murderers and must deliver them up to be tried and dealt with as above specified; then the Cayuse should have peace and not till then.

After much consultation among themselves, they concluded to comply with my demand, and about the last of February, I received a letter from Mr. McBean, the gentleman having charge of the Hudson's Bay Company's fort at Walla Walla, informing me that if a small force could be sent to take charge of the murderers, they would be given up.

At that time, Col. Loring, commanding Rifle Regiment was absent on official business at Puget's Sound, and the regiment was almost broken up by desertion, scarcely having a sufficient force to guard the Public property. Under such circumstances, no force could be sent to the Cayuse country. Major Tucker, commanding, made known to me the condition of the Regiment, whereupon I concluded to pursue the deserters, and accordingly proceeded up the country, accompanied by Lieut. Lane, who was detailed to go

with funds to subsist such of our citizens as would join in the expedition, and I am much gratified to say that they readily turned out, to the number of some twenty, although many others wished to go. The trip as you know, was as successful as I could reasonably expect; between fifty and sixty of the deserters were brought back.

As our expedition was on its return, I had the pleasure of meeting Col. Loring in the Umpqua Valley, with a small portion of his command, chiefly consisting of officers. The Colonel, upon hearing of the desertions from his Regiment, returned with despatch from Puget Sound, and with this small force, promptly moved forward to apprehend the deserters. After an absence of five weeks, upon my arrival at Oregon City, I learned that the Chief of the Cayuses had been down to see me, and after waiting about two weeks, had returned to his people. I immediately set out for the Cayuse country, accompanied by Lieutt Addison of the Rifles and ten men. On assembling the Cayuses at the Dalles, I found that in their effort to take the murderers, they had killed Tomucie, and one of Tilogunits sons; Tilogunit, Big Murderer, and Tushlape were given up and are now in my possession. Towatta, or the Young Chief, stipulated to deliver up the two remaining murderers at this city by the second Monday of the present month, at which time, I promised them the Court would sit for their trial.

The Judge of the First Judicial District being temporarily absent from the Territory, I would therefore request you, without delay, to prepare laws authorizing the Judge of the Second Judicial District to hold a special Term at Oregon City for that and other purposes, commencing on Monday the thirteenth instant: at the same time a Chinook Indian can be tried, who is now in confinement, charged with the murder of Stephens, one of the four unfortunate young men who during the last winter lost their lives in an attempt to make the Columbia in a small boat, from the Big Forest, which vessel had been lying off the mouth of the river for many days in a suffering condition, for the want of a Pilot to bring her in. My pledge to the Cayuses respecting an early trial, as well as the great difficulty of keeping the prisoners securely in the absence of jails, makes your immediate action necessary.

The punishment of these Indians if guilty, will remove the barrier to a peace with the Cayuse, and have a good effect upon all the tribes. Our Indian relations

will then be placed upon a basis that will ensure a permanent peace with all the northern tribes of the Territory.

The establishment of peace and harmony with the Indian tribes scattered over our Territory upon a secure and lasting basis, is a measure of vital importance to all; and this, I am happy to say has been accomplished at comparatively little expense to our Government, for in no instance have I offered them a reward for the apprehension of guilty persons or paid them for wrong doing; and our relations with all the tribes excepting the Chastes or Rogue river Indians, are of the most friendly kind. It is my intention to visit Rogue river within a few weeks, and endeavour to place our relations with the Indians in that part of our Territory on a friendly footing, which at this time is very desirable, as it is probable that a large portion of our population will soon be engaged in mining operations in that quarter.

I feel it my duty to call your attention to the confused and imperfect condition of the laws passed at the last Session, which together with the failure to print them, has led to misunderstandings among the people and confusion in county organizations.

There are existing doubts as to the validity of the code — whether it does not conflict with the law of Congress, establishing the Territorial government. Simplicity in our laws and their general circulation, are matters of the greatest moment to the whole community. I have no doubt that after a careful review of the labors of the last Session, any and all existing imperfections will be remedied, which in the hurry of closing the Session had been overlooked.

Your attention is called to the law regulating general elections, whether it will not be well for the present year to bring on the elections at a later period. This suggestion is made with the belief that the time intervening will not be sufficient for the business of the present Session.

I have much satisfaction in informing you, that I have in my possession a copy of a letter from the First Comptroller of the Treasury of the United States to General Adair, Collector at Astoria, directing him to disburse "for compensation and mileage of members of the Legislative Assembly, officers, clerks, and contingent expenses of the Assembly, twenty thousand and five hundred dollars."

A large and growing interest of this Territory, to which demands your attention, is the commerce, and the facilities connected with its successful prosecution.

The delays and terrors hitherto connected with the entrance of the Columbia river, have in a great measure, disappeared by the survey and exploration of what is known as the south channel of that noble river. For this valuable service, we are deeply indebted to Capt. White, an eminent pilot, formerly of New York, who for several months past has successfully conducted through it, without a single day's delay, all vessels wishing to cross the bar. Through his instrumentality, it is now demonstrated beyond a doubt, that with a good pilot, neither danger nor detention need be apprehended, but on the contrary, crafts of all kinds may cross in and out with ease and safety. This useful service, I regret to add has not been adequately compensated by the fees, which the board on pilotage has deemed it politic to impose on ships, navigating the river. A just regard to the encouragement of our commerce, by the laying of moderate charges upon vessels in return for such service, is found to be inconsistent with a fair and liberal compensation to Captain White, which may seem a continuance of his labors in our behalf. And I think justice to what has already been done, no less than a proper respect for what he may do hereafter, demand that a liberal provision in his behalf should be made by the Legislative Assembly —

In June next, the mail steamers so long and anxiously looked for, will commence their regular trips to Astoria. The service of a good pilot, at all times necessary, will be especially so then, to bring them in & out without delay and in safety. Capt. White, the present pilot, finding himself without adequate compensation, has I am informed determined to give up his post: to avert this and to do justice to a meritorious man, are strong reasons in my judgement for your early action upon the subject, and in this spirit, I deem it my duty to earnestly urge it upon your attention. In connection with the same matter, I take great pleasure in saying that Captain McArthur and others, engaged upon the coast survey, have commenced their labors at the mouth of the Columbia, and we may hope now, that after buoys are placed to indicate the channel, scientific surveys made, and the erection of a light house, our commercial advantages will not only be a source of pride but of substantial wealth to the Territory.

Your attention is called to the fact, that much inconvenience and delay has been experienced by many of our citizens engaged in commercial and mercantile pursuits for the want of a notary public. There is not one in

the Territory. The good people of Portland have petitioned for the appointment of a notary, — one has also been asked for at Astoria. Such an officer is certainly much needed at these point. The Executive would be gratified to appoint; but has no authority of law to do so.

It will be your duty by enactment to fix the time and place for the regular meetings of the Legislative Assembly.

Having now finished the observations on this, probably the last time I shall have of communicating with you, allow me to express the hope that whatever error I may have committed will be attributed to no want of zeal in the discharge of my official duties, and that they may find a corrective in the intelligence and patriotism of the gentleman who will succeed me. — And in my retirement whatever may be lot, I shall not cease to invoke that Beneficent Being, to whose providence we are so signally indebted for the general prosperity of the Territory, for the continuance of his blessings upon Oregon, — upon you — and upon your constituents, from whom I have received uniform kindness and support in the discharge of my duties

"Signed" Joseph Lane

Oregon City May 7th 1850

Proclamation

By The Governor of the Territory of Oregon

I Joseph Lane, Governor of the Territory of Oregon do hereby give notice that an election will be held on Monday the 20th inst. at the usual places of holding elections in the county of Benton, for the purpose of electing two Members to the House of Representatives, to fill the vacancies occasioned by the resignations of the Hon G B Smith and the Hon J L Mallby.

Also:— That an election will be held on the same day at the usual places of holding elections in the County of Washington (formerly Tualty) for the purpose of Electing one Member to the House of Representatives, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the Hon. S Hill.

The above elections will be held and

conducted as provided by law, and returns made without delay to the Executive office in this city.

Given under my hand this 10th day of May A D 1850 —

"Signed" Joseph Lane

Copy of a communication from the Council —

Council Chamber
Oregon City
May 10th 1850

To His Excellency Joseph Lane

Your Excellency

The following resolution passed the Council on the 9th inst.

"Resolved That Governor Lane be requested to furnish this Council with such information, if any, as he may possess as to whether the Secretary of the Territory has taken the Oath of office and executed the necessary bond &c"

"Signed" C M Walker
Ch. Clerk of Council

Reply to the above communication

Executive Office
Oregon City
May the 10th 1850

To the Hon. the President
of the Council

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a resolution of the Council, adopted on the 9th inst. in the following words to wit:

"Resolved, that Governor Lane be requested to furnish this Council with such information, if any, as he may possess as to whether the Secretary of the Territory has taken the Oath of Office and executed the necessary bond &c"

In answer to the first inquiry I have the honor to communicate for your information, that by reference to the Executive Journal I find recorded the

following Oath, taken subscribed, and certified as below.

"I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and faithfully to discharge the duties of Secretary in and for the Territory of Oregon. So help me God."

"Signed" Kintzing Pritchett

Oregon Territory
Clackamas County } ss

"I Gabriel Walling Justice of the peace in and for Clackamas County do certify that the above named Kintzing Pritchett personally appeared before me, this 9th day of April A.D. 1849 and made and subscribed the above Oath of Office."

(Signed) Gabriel Walling J.P.

To the second inquiry contained in the resolution, I respectfully reply that I am not aware of the Secty of the Territory, having executed any bond, nor have I any knowledge of the Secy of the Treasury of the United States having prescribed any time, place, or manner of executing the same, as required by the 22nd Section of the law of Congress Establishing the Territorial Government of Oregon

I have the honor to be
Sir
With great respect
Your obedient Servt
Signed Joseph Lane

Proclamation

By The Governor of the Territory of Oregon

"I, Joseph Lane, Governor of The Territory of Oregon, do hereby give notice that elections will be held on the first Monday of June next, at the usual places of holding elections in the several counties named below, for the purpose of electing the following officers, to wit:

In the counties of Polk, Yamhill, and Washington for the purpose of electing one member to the Council, for each county;

In the counties of Clackamas, Marion, and Yamhill for the purpose of electing three members to the House of Representatives, for each county;

In the counties of Linn, Benton, Polk, and Washington for the purpose of electing two members to the House of Representatives, for each county;

In the counties of Clatsop, Lewis, and Clark for the purpose of electing one member to the House of Representatives;

In the counties of Clackamas, Marion, Yamhill, Linn, Benton, Polk, Washington, Clatsop, Lewis, and Clark, for the purpose of electing three judges of probate, one clerk of probate, one sheriff, one county treasurer, one assessor, three justices of the peace, and three constables, for each county.

The above elections will be held and conducted, and returns made as provided by law; but in all counties where there has been no organization, the returns will be made direct to the Secretary of the Territory.

Given, under my hand, at Oregon City this 21st day of May A.D. 1850.

(Signed) Joseph Lane.

May The 22nd A.D. 1850.

The following named gentlemen having been duly elected Notaries Public, by Joint Ballot of the Legislative Assembly, were this day commissioned, to-wit;

H S Holland, in and for the county of Clackamas
A N Gilbert, in and for the county of Marion
Wm McCaw, in and for the county of Linn
Joseph C Avery, in and for the county of Benton
H M Waller, in and for the county of Polk
A L Watt, in and for the county of Yamhill
Col Wm M King, in and for the county of Washington
Adam Vandruzen, in and for the county of Clatsop
Samuel Bell, in and for the county of Clark
Elen Dorr, in and for the county of Lewis.

Executive Office
Oregon City O.T.
May 22nd 1850

To the Hon. John M. Clayton
Sec'y of State of the U.S.

Sir

I hereby tender to the President of the United States my resignation, as Governor and ex-officio Superintendent of Indian affairs for the Territory of Oregon, to take effect from and after the 1st day of June next.

I have the honor to be
Sir
your obedient servant
Joseph Lane

Executive Office
Oregon City O.T.
May 27th 1850

To the Hon. Jas M. Clayton
Secretary of State of the U. S

Sir

I have the honor herewith to enclose my resignation, which you will have the kindness to lay before the President.

This I should have done before, but for the reason that I found many things to do, absolutely necessary and important, all of which have been accomplished with the exception of making a trip to the Rogue river country, for the purpose of placing our relations with the Indians in that quarter, upon a proper and friendly footing, which I shall be able to do within the time specified in my resignation.

I am happy to state that the whole of the Cayuse Indians, now supposed to be living, who were concerned in the murder of Dr Whitman, family and others, I have succeeded in bringing to justice; they have been tried by the U. S. District Court and will be hanged on Monday next, and this I am gratified to state will remove the only barrier to a peace with the Cayuse nation

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Obedient Servt
(Signed) Joseph Lane.

June 11th A.D. 1850

The following named gentlemen were this day commissioned, to-wit:

S. Jeffers. commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Clackamas

J S White commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the county of Clackamas

Israel Mitchell commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the county of Clackamas

S F Holland commissioned Clerk of the Probate Court in and for the county of Clackamas

William Holmes commissioned Sheriff in and for the County of Clackamas

Richard H Lansdale commissioned Clerk of the Probate Court in and for the County of Clarke

William Gordwin commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Clarke

John C Ailman commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Clarke

Amos M Short commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Clark

June 18th 1850

The Office of Governor having the day become vacant by the resignation of His Excellency Joseph Lane the Secretary of the Territory Kintzing Pritchett assumed the duties of Governor according to Law

June 29th 1850

David T Lenox commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Washington

Thomas D Humphreys commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Washington

Levi A Rice commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Washington

William Geiger commissioned Clerk of the Probate Court in and for the County of Washington

William Bennett commissioned Sheriff in and for the County of Washington

Caleb Wilkins commissioned Treasurer in and for the County of Washington

July 3rd 1850

Robert Canfield commissioned Treasurer in and for the County of Clackamas

July 10th 1850

G. H. Atkinson commissioned School Commissioner in and for the County of Clackamas

S. K. Barlow commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Clackamas

J. Jeffers commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Clackamas

L. S. Mabie commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Clackamas

Andrew J. Bolon commissioned Sheriff in and for the County of Clark

Daniel Brownfield commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Clark

Joseph Gibbons commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Clark

George Millick commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Clark

Horace Lyman, commissioned School Commissioner in and for the County of Washington

Henry Lovell commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Washington

J. B. Battles commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Washington

Levi A. Rice commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Washington

J. Strahan commissioned Judge of the Probate ~~Court~~ in and for the County of Clarke

D. Ingalls commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Clarke

L. D. Mayon commissioned Treasurer in and for the County of Clark

William M. Gray commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Clatsop

R. M.c Cown commissioned Clerk of the Probate Court in and for the County of Clatsop

R. M. Morrison commissioned Treasurer in and for the County of Clatsop

L. Thompson commissioned School Commissioner in and for the County of Clatsop

D. C. Peace commissioned Sheriff in and for the County of Clatsop

David Ingalls commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Clatsop

B. H. Baird commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Clatsop

P. Gearhart commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Clatsop

William Abern commissioned Sheriff in and for the County of Marion

John B McLane commissioned Treasurer in and for the County of Marion

Aaron Purdy commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Marion

Simon Markham commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Marion

William Cozier commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Marion

Joseph M Garrison commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Marion

Jacob Vanorsdale commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Marion

John Grim commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Marion

Horace P. Gilbert commissioned Clerk of the Probate Court in and for the County of Marion

William Knotts commissioned to be Clerk of the Probate Court in and for the County of Benton

B. F. Stevens commissioned to be Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Benton

O. F. Clark commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Benton

G. Belknap commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Benton

A. J. Hembree commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Carroll

Jacob Comegys commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Carroll

Elijah Dodson commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Carroll

A. J. Platt commissioned Clerk of the Probate Court in and for the County of Carroll

Andrew Shuck commissioned Sheriff in and for the County of Carroll

C. Kennedy commissioned Treasurer in and for the County of Carroll

J. C. Lyle commissioned School Commissioner in and for the County of Carroll

E. C. Morris commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Carroll

A. Merchant commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Carroll

J. B. Hart commissioned Justice of the Peace and for the County of Camden

July 18th 1850

A. M. Locke commissioned Sheriff in and for the County of Benton

S Drumm commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Benton

J Lloyd commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Benton

C. Martin commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Benton

A. Fuller commissioned Treasurer in and for the County of Benton

July 24th 1850

Isaac Hutchins commissioned Sheriff in and for the County of Lynn

Robert Houston commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Lynn

John Crabtree commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Lynn

Hark L. Brown commissioned Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Lynn

Reuben Claypool commissioned Treasurer in and for the County of Lynn

H. H Spalding commissioned School Commissioner in and for the County of Lynn

William M Cary commissioned Clerk of the Probate Court in and for the County of Lynn

James Bark commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Lynn

John McCoy commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Lyons

John A. Dunlap commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Lyons

July 31st 1850

Proclamation

By Hintzing Pritchette

Acting Governor of the Territory of Oregon

I hereby give Public Notice to the qualified voters residing within the limits of Oregon City as incorporated by the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Oregon that a meeting of said voters will be held at Barlow's Hotel in said City, on Monday the fifth day of August next for the purpose of electing in the manner provided by the act incorporating said City the following Officers of said City to Wit:—

A Mayor, Recorder, and five Trustees

The Polls will be opened at one o'clock and closed at four o'clock in the afternoon of said day.

Given under my Hand at Oregon City this thirty first day of July A.D. 1850

Hintzing Pritchette

August 2 1850

T. J. Loveland commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Polk

D. R. Lewis commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Polk

H. Linville commissioned Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County of Polk

H. H. Hall commissioned Clerk of the Probate Court in and for the County of Polk

J. S. Coleman, commissioned Sheriff in and for the County of Polk

August 16th 1850

Sidney W. Moss, was this day appointed Justice of the Peace in and For the County of Clackamas to fill the vacancy created by the declination of S. K. Barlow

August 18th 1850

His Excellency John P Gaines this day reached Oregon City the Seat of Government having arrived within the Territory of Oregon on the 13th Instant

September 15th 1850

The Secretary of the Territory Edward Hamilton this day reached Oregon City the Seat of Government having arrived within the Territory on the 13th Instant

John P Gaines was appointed Governor of Oregon Territory by Zachary Taylor President of the United States on the day of A.D. 1849.

The oath of Office was administered to him by the Hon John McLean Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States on the 20th day of November A.D. 1849. and indorsed on his commission as follows viz-

The United States

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, John P Gaines named in the above commission who was duly sworn to discharge the duties of Governor of the Territory of Oregon according to the best of his ability and all duties which may be connected therewith and to support the Constitution of the United States

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of Nov 1849.

John McLean
Justice Sup Court
U States.

The above is a true copy recorded by me this 17th day of September 1850.

E Hamilton
Sec of Oregon Terr

Intelligence of the decease of Zachary Taylor on the 9th day of July 1850; having been received, the Governor on the 4th day September 1850 issued the following

Proclamation.

The Governor announces to the People of Oregon with the deepest sorrow, that it has pleased Almighty God to remove by death from his exalted station Zachary Taylor President of the United States. The nation is found in mourning the loss of the brave Soldier the benevolent Patriot and the Chief Magistrate whose entire long life had been devoted to the service of the country.

Believing as I do that deep affliction calls for the exercise of the deepest religious sensibilities of our nature I do hereby invite the People of this Territory to observe Friday the twelfth instant by appropriate religious Services and with earnest and fervent prayers to our Heavenly Father that the bereavement may be sanctified to the nation, and that He may be pleased to avert from our beloved Union all calamities and dangers

and to protect it by his powerful hand.
Given at the Executive Office in Oregon City this Fourth day of September in the year of our Lord one Thousand eight hundred and fifty.
Jno P Gaines.

August 14th 1850.
David Ingalls Esqr Justice of the Peace for Clatsop County resigned his commission

Joseph Henry Appropriate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States appeared before me and took his official oath indorsed on his commission as follows

Territory of Oregon County of Clatsop ss.

I Edward Hamilton Sec'y of the Terr'y of Oregon duly appointed &c do hereby Certify that at Astoria in said Terr'y on this 14th day of Aug AD 1850 personally appeared before me Joseph Henry duly appointed and commissioned an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the U.S. for said Terr'y and made & took the oath to support the Constitution of the U.S. and faithfully to discharge the duties of said office of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States for the Territory of Oregon

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal at Astoria this 14th day of August AD 1850

Ed Hamilton
Sec'y for the Terr'y of Oregon.

Edward Hamilton was appointed by Zachary Taylor President of the United States, Secretary of Oregon Territory on the 17th day of September AD 1849.

On the 4th day of December he was qualified before John M Dean Justice of the Sup. Court of the Territory his oath endorsed on his commission as follows.

The United States

Personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States Edward Hamilton who was duly sworn to support the Constitution of the United States and to discharge to the best of his abilities the duties of Secretary of the Territory of Oregon

In testimony whereof I have here to set my hand this 4th day of December 1849.

John M Dean

September 18th 1850

Received the following note viz

Department of State
Washington April 30. 1850

Edward Hamilton Esqr

Sir.

Your nomination as Secretary of the Territory of Oregon having been confirmed by the Senate on the 25th Inst I herewith enclose your commission

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
J M Clayton.

Thereupon I took the official oath endorsed on my commission as follows. viz

Oregon Territory
Clackamas County ss.

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for said county Edward Hamilton who was duly sworn to support the Constitution of the United States and to discharge to the best of his abilities the duties of Secretary of the Territory of Oregon.

In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand this 18th day of September AD 1850
Sidney R Moss,
Justice of Peace.

Isaac A Eby commissioned Judge of Probate for Lewis County.

Kilborne Mayor of Oregon City took the oath of Office before me as follows viz

October 12th 1850

Henry M. Spalding Indian Agent took the oath of office before me endorsed on his Commission as follows

I Henry M. Spalding Swear that I will faithfully serve the United States in the Office of Indian Agent for the Territory of Oregon that I will carefully attend to all such orders and instructions as I shall from time to time receive from the President of the United States the Secretary of the Interior, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs or the person under whose direction I am or may hereafter be placed, and that in all things belonging to my said office during my continuance therein I will faithfully justly and truly according to the best of my skill and judgment do equal and impartial justice without fraud favor or affection.

Henry M. Spalding

Sworn to and subscribed
before me this 12th day of
October 1850.

E. Hamilton Sec. of Oregon Ter.

Received from Ind. Adm Collector of Astoria his account and sundry vouchers for payments Made by him of legislative expenses of the Territory.

October 25. 1850

Resignation of B Belcaen Justice of the Peace for Clackamas County received & filed

October 23rd 1850

Oath of Office of Joseph L Meek Marshal of Oregon Ter. taken May 20th 1849 received & filed it having been heretofore among Gov Lanes papers.

October 28th 1850.

Bond of James Taylor Treasurer of Oregon Territory and Official Oath thereon endorsed filed.

Treasury Department
Nov 16th 1849.

The law of August 14th 1848 to es-
tablish the Territorial Government of Oregon
having required that the Governor and Secretary
of the Territory in the disbursements of money en-
trusted to them by virtue of their offices be gov-
erned solely by the instructions of the Secretary
of the Treasury of the United States, the follow-
ing instructions are given.

1st No money to be paid for objects not
specially authorized by Acts of Congress making
the appropriations nor beyond the sums thus
appropriated for such objects

2d When any money is paid for an object
thus authorized a receipt is to be taken to be
a Voucher for the payment dated at the time
and place of the transaction to contain a
proper and pertinent description of the article
purchased or service rendered or labor per-
formed or money expended to be signed by
the person who is the meritorious cause of
the payment or by his authorized agent
and if to the latter a proper power of attor-
ney to accompany the receipt and if the
payment is made to an assignee the
assignments of the claim must be acknowl-
edged before a Notary Public or Magistrate
whose authority to act must be certified by
the Secretary of State or by a Clerk of
a Court of record under the Seal of Office
in each case

3. Each disbursing Officer to render an
account semi annually to the Secretary of the
Treasury with a pertinent certificate at
the bottom thereof signed by the officer and
the same being accompanied by the Vouchers
and an Abstract of the account, are to be
securely enveloped and directed to the First
Auditor of the Treasury of the United States
at Washington City and sent by the public mail.

signed W. M. Meredith.

November 4th 1850.

Certificate issued & copy of the following official oath. & original filed

" Oregon Territory Mar 25. 1850

Then personally appeared the within named Amory Holbrook and was sworn to support the Constitution of the United States and faithfully to discharge the duties of his office as Attorney of the United States for the District of Oregon

Before me

Keitzing Prichette

Secretary of the Territory of Oregon

The forgoing is a true copy of the original certificate as endorsed on the commission of said Amory Holbrook."

Certificate issued & copy of the following official oath. and the original filed

United States of America

Territory of Oregon

County of Clackamas. } Set.

Be it remembered that on this twentieth day of March A.D 1849 personally appeared before me Geo L Curry Clerk of the Clackamas County Court the undersigned Joseph L Meek and was by me duly sworn to support the constitution of the United States and faithfully to discharge the duties of Marshal of the Territory of Oregon during his continuance in Office as marshal of the Territory of Oregon

(signed) Joseph L Meek

Subscribed and sworn to before me at my office in Oregon City this day & date above written

Geo L Curry Clk.

November 4th 1850.

Filed the following

Territory of Oregon
County of Clark. ss.

I William Strong do sol
emnly swear that I will support the Constitution
of the United States and will faithfully and
impartially discharge the duties of the Office
of an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of
the United States for the Territory of Oregon.

[Signed] William Strong

Subscribed and Sworn to before me
Oct 29th AD 1850

Arnold Short
Probate Judge
Marion County

I hereby certify that on the 29th day of
Oct AD 1850 I administered the oath of office
above written to Wm Strong
Jr Gen Land Office
Ter of Oregon.

The same being endorsed on the Commission
of Wm Strong bearing date Aug 21st 1850.

Received the following notice which is filed &c

To his Excellency Gov Jno P Gaines

Sir

I hereby
inform you that the Hon Ed Bellinger Member
of the House of Representatives for Marion County died
on Saturday the 26th October 1850 and I pray you
would Order an Election to fill the vacancy &c
you will confer a favor on the citizens of Marion
County

Your humble Servants
J A Gilbert
Clerk of M. County

Whereupon on the 5th the following Proclamation
issued, published in the "Oregon Spectator"

Proclamation.
By the Governor of the Territory of Oregon.

I John P Gaines Governor of the Territory of Oregon do hereby make known that the qualified voters of Marion County are notified and required to meet at the usual places of holding elections, on Monday the 25th day of November inst and then and there to elect one Member of the House of Representatives to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the Hon Orl Bellinger late member elect for said County said election to be held certified and returned in the manner required by Law

Given under my hand at the Executive Office Oregon City this 5th day of November AD 1850

Jno P Gaines

Oregon City Nov 15. 1850

Estimate of appropriations for the civil department in the Territory of Oregon for the Fiscal year ending June 30. 1852

Salaries of Governor Secretary Attorney Marshal and 3 Judges	10.900
Compensation & Mileage of Members of Assembly	12.500
Officers & Clerks	
Contingent expenses of the Assembly Printing the Laws &c	6.340
Rent fuel &c for Offices of Governor & Secretary	1.000
Expenses of Library, Rent Librarian &c	600
Contingent expenses of the Executive Department	1 500
Expense of holding Courts	4.000
Contingencies	3.160
	$ 40.000

Remarks. In the absence of the District Attorney and Marshal from the seat of government they being now at Court in Lewis County the item for the "Courts" is made without the advantage of their aid. and more definite estimate than the above cannot be made under our present circumstances but it is believed the above will be sufficient

E Hamilton Sec of Oregon

To His Excellency Jno P Gaines

Executive Department
Oregon City Nov 15 1850

To
J Haines Esqr
Register of the Treasury

Sir

Your letter of the 4th September last requesting estimates of the expenses of this Territory for the fiscal year ending June 30 1852 to be forwarded was received per last steamer and I have the honor to enclose the same herewith.

The Legislative Assembly may protract its Session to ninety days as now allowed by Law and the laws will hereafter be printed which has heretofore been but partially done, hence the estimate is some what larger than for the present year.

Yours Respectfully
Jno P Gaines.

Nov 17th 1850.
The following papers are placed on record

Oregon City 4th Sept 1850
Executive Office

To Hon John P Gaines
Governor of Oregon

Sir

I have the honor herewith to deliver to you as the successor of Governor Lane a box containing Eight packages of papers as follows

Package No 1. containing papers relative to Indian Affairs
Packages 2 3 & 4 papers concerning Elections.
Package No 5 containing the acts & statutes of the Territory of Oregon
Package No 6 containing a census Roll.
Package No 7. containing official letters.
Package No 8. containing Stewarts Papers

The above are all the papers that came into my hands as Acting Governor after Governor Lane's resignation and there was no other public property or any public money on hand in the Executive Office to my knowledge or the time of vacating the office.

I refer you to your two packages of letters in relation to boundary lines and leave the designation

of Bureau Lands.

Ebenezing Brickett

Treasury Department
Comptroller's Office
November 26. 1849.

Hon Peter D Gaines
Governor of Oregon
Sir

I hand to you herewith the instructions of the Secretary of the Treasury in regard to the disbursement of money which shall be intrusted to you as Governor of Oregon Superintendent of Indian Affairs and disbursing agent of other Money

Your bond is received approved and filed and a copy of the oath will be sent to the Secretary of State

Wishing you health prosperity and happiness

I am
Most Sincerely
Your
Elisha Whittlesey

Treasury Department
Comptrollers Office
Dec 17. 1849

E Hamilton Esqr
Sec'y of the Ter'y of Oregon
Now at New York

Dear Sir.

Your letter of the 11th was duly received and My intention to answer it has been arrested by Ill health & pressing business. I was not able to see the Secretary of the Treasury before Saturday when I presented to him the Bond executed by yourself here and by your securities in Ohio. The one executed by yourself Gov Gaines Richardson Greene & R Sanford is cancelled and will be delivered to Gov Gaines when he calls. I have not yet seen him

Most Sincerely Yours
Elisha Whittlesey.

Proclamation

By the Governor of the Territory of Oregon.

Whereas the result of the late annual election for members of the General Assembly and other Officers, not having been heretofore proclaimed as the law requires therefore

I John P Gaines Governor of the Territory of Oregon do hereby declare and make known that at the election held on the First Monday of June 1850 in pursuance of law, the following named gentlemen were duly returned as duly elected Members of the Legislative Council viz

County of Yam Hill	James H McBride
Polk	Fredk Waymire
Washington	Lawrence Hall

The following gentlemen were duly returned as elected Members of the House of Representatives viz

County of Benton	A L Avery
	Wayman St Clair
Clackamas	Benjn Simpson
	Wm T Matlock
	Hector Campbell
Clark Clatsop & Lewis	Freeman D Power
Linn	Wm A Upshur
	Elias L Walters
	Wm Shaw
	Wm Parker
	C M Bellinger
Polk	A N Holmes
	John Sharp
Washington	Ralph Wilcox
	Wm H King
Yam Hill	Martin P Deady
	S M Gilmore
	Asa Payne.

Given under my hand at Oregon City this 17th day of November A D 1850.

Jno P Gaines.

Nov 25th 1850.

Bond of A L Watt Esqr clerk of Probate Court Yamhill county filed. approval endorsed.

Governor's Message

Executive Department

Oregon City Dec 2. 1850

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly

I am
gratified you that we have been permitted by divine
Providence, to assemble together to deliberate upon
questions that immediately concern the welfare of the
people of Oregon

The duty is not imposed on me by law, to
recommend to your consideration any measure, nor
am I clothed with powers to approve or disapprove
any of your acts, but in accordance with previous us-
age, and believing that some suggestions from me
will not be unacceptable to you, I have taken some
pains to ascertain the wants and necessities of our
common constituency, and with great deference sub-
mit a few observations to your consideration.

Previous to my leaving Washington City in
December last I endeavored to collect all the information
in my power, concerning the affairs of Oregon, and addres-
sed a letter in relation thereto to General Layton with
whom I had a long conversation, and who I am
happy to say, concurred with me in all the views taken
. I transmit to you herewith a copy of the
letter and ask you to consider it a part of this communica-
tion. You will observe that I urge upon Congress the pro-
priety of confirming the act of the Provisional Government
donating a section of land to all persons over the age of
eighteen years who had emigrated to the country. And
I add, "And further to extend the same to all hereafter
who may emigrate to the Territory, within a reasonable time
4 years or until all the land in the Territory may be select-
ed, provided said citizen shall settle upon and cultivate
the same" Experience has convinced me of the correctness
of these views, and that the immigrant to Oregon has
fully earned a section of land and should have it,
provided he settles upon and cultivates it. With the
toils and difficulties to be encountered in emigrating hither
you are all familiar. I am not in favor of discrimi-
nating in regard to grants to actual settlers. The trials
and difficulties are no less in volume now at least they are
sufficient to entitle the emigrant to more than ordinary recom-
pense, and although the earlier emigrants suffered many

riendships and Negotiations in the Territory, to which these Men owning are but partially subjected, yet they have had the advantage of Observing the most desirable Solications, and are now deeply solicited that others should be encouraged to make their Claims for future Home

It is the true Policy of the General Government to be liberal in Donations of Lands to those who are willing to carry on and perfect Improvements that have for their Object the Development of our Country's best Resources and I would Recommend that Congress be respectfully but most earnestly Memorialized in accordance with these Views. Past Experience has demonstrated the importance of having and maintaining a Military Defence such as may be afforded by the Regular Army and disciplining of the Hardy Yeomenry, the Country's Strength and when danger Presents itself. I therefore submit the propriety of an immediate Organization of the Militia.

For the better accommodation of the great and increasing interests of the Territory, it is of the utmost importance that Roads be established, so to connect the different Sections of the Country, that they may be of easier and more convenient access to each other. The want of proper Means of Conveying intelligence through the Territory and of transporting the produce of the Soil to Market has been severely felt particularly by those occupying the more remote parts of the Country. I would direct Your particular attention to the immediate establishment of Roads, for the purpose of affording Facilities to those who may emigrate hereafter, and not only to improve the Roads in that direction, but to establish Posts for the greater security of life and property, by intimidating the hostile bands of Indians that infest the Road, and also to alleviate the of furnishing mens of the future Emigrants. The great Buffering endured this Season should not fail to impress You with its importance, and not leave it as Reasonable to private Charity to Connect Puget Sound with the Columbia River some Points on the Nallamet with the Waters of the Columbia and the Nallamet Valley with that of the Umpqua and among these should be made Choice for the present. Commissioners should be appointed to locate said Roads and the principal Roads of the Territory and the Counties through which they pass Required to open and keep them in good Order.

To the Federal government properly belongs the improvements of our Rivers and Harbors. There has

already known an account pursuing made of the month of the Columbia and it is found to be correct for vessels to enter by three well acquainted with the two channels at the mouth of river Gunk. I learn from the Collectors Office, that out of one hundred and seventeen vessels that have entered the mouth of the Columbia during the eighteen months intervening from April 1849 to September 1850, there has been but two vessels that have met with accidents, only one of which was lost, but accidents happening before the arrival of Capt Hall's able and indefatigable pilots at the mouth of the Columbia river. The number of vessels entering and trading in the Columbia and the Market is rapidly increasing each month, and although I have been unable to obtain an accurate account of the number of vessels that have arrived in the last two months, I have been informed by those living near the mouth of the river and others that the increase is considerable over preceding months. The may reasonably expect I think further appropriations by the general government for the erection of light houses and other improvements.

I would allude to the cause of education. The integrity and prosperity of our republican institutions, depend upon the dissemination of knowledge among the people. Those whose good fortune it is to enjoy an education, value it above all price, while those whose misfortune it is to be without it, feel perhaps this privation more keenly than all others. Never was an adage more true than, that knowledge is power. I invoke upon most earnest attention to this subject.

The inconvenience experienced by public functionaries as well as the people at large for the want of suitable buildings in which to transact the public business renders the permanent location of the Seat of government of no little importance. This subject is well calculated to excite the public mind, therefore great pains should be taken to meet the just expectations of all part of the territory The advantage in a pecuniary point of view of the location of the Seat selected is not less imaginary than real, for there can be but little incidental gain or loss the subject has no importance in the route but the public at large have a deep interest that a judicious selection be made. There is now in my hands $5000. for the purpose of erecting suitable public buildings to which may be added $40,000 appropriated at the late session of Congress.

The want of a secure place of confinement for persons convicted of high crimes renders your prompt action in regard to the erection of a Penitentiary indispensably necessary to the faithful execution of the laws

Our country men are now engaged in the laudable and laudable enterprise of erecting a Monument at Washington City commemorative of the illustrious deeds of the Father of his Country. The States and Territories are invited each to contribute a Block or Slab of Stone with suitable inscriptions thereon to form a part of the Monument. In recommending an immediate acceptance of this invitation I feel sure that I am expressing the wishes of every true hearted Oregonian.

In relation to the Indians of the Indian tribes who are within the settled parts of the Country, a high and sacred duty belongs to the Legislature. The protection of these people in their homes and lands, the instruction upon them of such cultivation as they are capable of receiving in a great measure necessarily belongs to the General Government. The Government has appointed a person whose especial duty is to attend to the Indian Affairs, and a Board of Commissioners to treat with the Indians for the relinquishment of their rights to the soil. On the part of the Legislature, the adoption from time to time of such measures as lie within its province, calculated to further the objects of justice and humanity towards this fading race, should in like manner be kept in view. Among those which appear to me to promise advantageous results is the passage of an act authorizing the apprenticing Indian children to useful trades and occupations where the consent of the parents can be obtained and under proper safeguards for their food treatment and education. It is probable at least in the beginning, this course may not be free from objections, but with judgment in managing the legislation valuable results may hopefully be obtained. The numerous tribes of the Indians in this portion of Oregon, their habits of fixed residence, and great intelligence in their tribal grounds, the ingenuity displayed by them in many articles of manufacture, indicate the direction in which they should be instructed. Not only as [illegible] but as Christian duty and the mechanical they might be made useful to the community as well as themselves. Should the experiment be deemed worthy a trial I can think only of the agricultural pursuits

be carefully made in ith for the protection of the assurance in his rights and authority given to the agents of government to enforce the fulfilment of the Contract on the part of the employer

I would most earnestly invite your immediate attention to the condition of the Land of the Territory. It has been said of an ancient tyrant that "he hoisted his laws so high that none of his subjects could read them." So man's life, liberty, or property should be subjected to the operation of laws of which he is wholly ignorant or of which he might not easily obtain information, and yet such is essentially the condition of the people of this Territory. One of the highest compliments due to the people of Oregon is their love of good order, and their disposition to yield to the rights of each other. But as the country progresses, new circumstances will arise, and the necessity of well known rules by which these interests can be regulated and protected must be obvious to all. Some of the laws now in the Statute book are believed by many to have been passed there in violation of their Charter rights while others openly refuse obedience to them for the same reason. These difficulties should at once be gotten rid of and a code instituted that would command the respect of all our constituents.

The subject of Taxation, always a delicate one, demands your early attention. The people will cheerfully pay such taxes, as the wants of the Territory require, provided they are equitably levied. With great deference I would recommend the passage of a law, by means of which the value of each person's property of every description may be ascertained and impose a reasonable "ad valorem" tax upon it after deducting his indebtedness.

The unexpended balance appropriated by Congress for the purpose of purchasing a library was placed in my hands and has been nearly all expended under my direction. The books have been placed in a room, handsomely fitted up, and I submit to your wisdom such action in relation to them as you think proper. If it is your desire to provide for their use and safe keeping at the Session of the Legislature they are at your disposal, otherwise I will endeavor to see the law faithfully executed.

Since your last meeting it has pleased Almighty God to bring to a close the long and

useful life of the President of the United States Zachary Taylor whose last words were "I have done my duty. I am not afraid to die" He breathed his last at the Presidents House in Washington City on the fourth day of July of the present year. On attempts a eulogy were vain, forty two years spent in the service of his country with a fidelity wisdom and success to perfect as to defy criticism. Commencing with an humble Lieutenancy in the army and terminating with the most exalted position which it has ever been the fortune of any human being to occupy, and that too derived from the uncorrupted source of a free people is his eulogy, and is glory enough for one man.

I Congratulate you upon the safe delivery of our glorious Union from the dangers which appeared lately to surround it. The admission of California into the Union, the establishment of Territorial governments for Utah and New Mexico, and the proposition to settle the Texas boundary question, which I have no doubt will be accepted by that State, has scattered to the winds the oft repeated declaration of Monarchists, "that there is no capacity in man for self government" and is a timely rebuke to fanaticism both North and South.

I invoke the divine blessing on all your efforts to serve Oregon and tender you my hearty co-operation.

Jno D Gaines.

December 4th 1850.

Benjn M Coffinbury Commissioned Judge of Probate Court for the County of Clatsop.

December 10th 1850

Territory of Oregon
County of Clatsop.

Nov 28th 1850 This day personally appeared Aaron Rothrock Attorney of the United States for the District of Oregon, before me William Strong Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the said Territory, and duly sworn to the faithful discharge of the duties of his office and to support the Constitution and laws of the United States

Wm Strong
Judge &c

December 20th 1850.

How W M Beatie commissioned Judge of Probate Court for Clackamas County

December 21. 1850

Territory of Oregon
Clackamas County. Personally appeared before the undersigned an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States for the Territory of Oregon the within named John D Boone and made solemn oath to support the Constitution of the United States and faithfully to discharge the duties of Governor in & for the Territory of Oregon

Wm Strong

Dec 13. 1850

Oregon City 11th Dec 1850

Wm A Slocum Esqr
Sheriff Marion Co

Sir

Your letter of the 30th Ult was not received until Yesterday. I regret that there should be any objection under existing circumstances to the payment of Taxes.

It is your duty (not discretionary) to enforce the law as you find it on the Statute book nor is there any discretion reposed in the Executive, in the contrary it is his duty to see the laws faithfully executed

It may be that the revenue laws are not in exact accordance with individual rights in each particular, but certainly they are no less binding on account of the failure to transmit a copy of them to Congress as the organic law requires. They must stand in force, until altered repealed or there [redacted] law fully enacted.

The act provides that "All the laws passed by the Legislative Assembly shall be submitted to the Congress of the United States and if disapproved shall be null and of no effect." The plain import of which is that the acts of the Legislature are in force from the time of their passage but may be set aside by Congress. It is hoped the people will continue to exercise yet a little longer the moderation and patience for which they have become so justly distin

guished, and in due season all will be settled
very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
Jno P Gaines

Executive Department
Oregon City Dec 21. 1850

Sir

Your letter of the 7th Oct last informing me that you had directed the sum of four thousand nine hundred and thirty dollars $4,930 to be sent to my care to be paid to Joseph L Meek Marshal of Oregon was duly received but no money has come to my hands I have understood that Mr Meek received the money through another channel

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
Jno P Gaines

Hon A H H Stuart
Sec of Interior
Washington City

Executive Department
Oregon City Dec 21. 1850

Sir

Your letter of the 10th August last was duly received informing me that you had in compliance with a resolution of Congress of 20 Feb 1850, caused to be forwarded to Messrs Newlin & Ashmead New York a packed box containing Vols 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 with the Atlas thereto & Vols 6 & 7, the whole being a complete Series so far as published of the Narrative of the Exploring Expedition. which box you inform me was directed to the Governor of Oregon to the care of Genl Lewis Addison Atkins and that the above firm was requested to forward it to me

I have the honor to inform you that nothing has been heard of the box except that contained in your letter

Very Respectfully &c
Jno P Gaines

Hon J M Mathes
Sec of State
Washington City D C